

1820-1920 34 million people immigrated into the  
United States

1830 there were only 13 million people in the U.S.

Most immigrants were Europeans (30 million)

Trip took about 5-6 months to complete in  
crowded conditions

# **REASONS FOR COMING TO AMERICA**

- natural resources = money
- pursuit of gold
- sent by London, America was used for setting up  
penal colonies
- indentured servants (bound into service 3-7  
years to pay the cost of the voyage)
- slaves

## **Reasons continued**

- Irish potato famine
- Pursuit of the American Dream
- classless society
- democracy and opportunity
- high wages low prices
- land

## **Reasons continued**

- Non-aggressive government
- Place to find a husband
- Escape war and the military in their country
- Escape religious persecution

# **EFFECTS OF IMMIGRATION ON AMERICA**

1. Wiped out 100,000 Native Americans
2. Enslavement of the Native Americans (Spanish)
3. Did not create a melting pot but rather separate little countries  
“E pluribus unum” (From many \_\_\_\_\_.)

4.**Huguenots** designed the capital of Washington, came up with the eagle as a symbol for America

5.**Irish** made the clothing factories

6.Other contributions...built the Erie Canal, paved the highways and laid the railways

All new comers faced hostility and prejudice....Why?

How?

**Upton Sinclair**

“You don’ t have to be satisfied with America  
as you find it. You can change it”

How can someone change America?

Political Activist



# **Sinclair**

Born September 20, 1878 in Baltimore, Maryland

Turning point in his life is when he joined the  
Socialist Party in 1904

# **Background Information on The Jungle**

## **Historical Novel**

- Deal with specific time periods, events, or people in history.
- Influence our view of history (according to the author's beliefs)

## **Muckraking Novel**

## **Protest Novel**

- exposure of intolerable working and living conditions in Chicago at the turn of the century

The Jungle was published in 1906

-Sinclair was given \$500 by the Socialist weekly magazine, Appeal to Reason, to investigate labor conditions in the Chicago stockyards and then publish his findings in the magazine.

Sinclair spent 7 weeks living with workmen to gather information for the novel.

When *The Jungle* was published, the nation reacted in horror. After reading the novel, President Theodore Roosevelt ordered an immediate investigation into the meat industry. Within months, two pieces of legislation resulted from Sinclair's novel: **The Pure Food and Drug Act and the Meat Inspection Act**, both signed into law on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1906. Sinclair was an instant celebrity and a Socialist hero, and was finally financially stable. He lamented the fact that the nation focused only on the unsafe food handling aspect of his novel, and ignored the problem of labor exploitation. He famously quipped: "I aimed at the public's heart and by accident I hit it in the stomach."

# **The Jungle by Upton Sinclair**

12 immigrants came from Lithuania to U.S.

## **6 adults**

Marija Berczynskas

Ona Lukoszaite

Jurgis Rudkus

Elizabeth Lukoszaite

Jonas

Antanas Rudkus

## **6 kids**

Stanislova (13)

Kotrina (11)

Vilimas (9)

Nikalojus (8)

Kristoforas (young)

Juozapas (young)

# **Family Genealogy**

# **Chapter 1 Characters and their descriptions**

## **Marija Berczynskas**

- strong willed, loud, hard working
- short powerful build
- broad Slavic face and red cheeks
- big teeth
- 20 years old
- works in a canning factory



**Ona Lukoszaite** small, blue eyes ,fair complexion

-wife of Jurgis

-Not quite 16

# Tamoszius Kuszleika

- taught himself to play the violin
- passionate about music
- 5'
- wizened up face

## **Jurgis Rudkus**

- strong, big shoulders and hands
- black wavy hair and black eyes

## **Dede Antanas Rudkus**

- Juris' father
- about 60 years old
- has coughing fits